Boston, Massachusetts, March 6.
1854.

Dear Miss Estlin,

I have at length got off our Annual English box, directing it to Richard D. Webb, & writing him beforehand, to suggest, at Anne Weston's instance, that Mr. Powell should be requested to open the box in Liverpool, and distribute thence the parcels for England & Scotland, making fully 3/4 of the contents of the box — probably more. This arrangement would save the trouble, time, & expense of two transportations of those parcels across the Irish Channel. But I have left it wholly to Mr. Webb, to do as he pleases in the matter. The box contains 300 of the Pamphlet of the 2d Decade Meeting of the Amn. A. S. Society; — I believe it will do a good work for our cause wherever read. I have divided (as usual) these 300 into separate parcels for all the principal places where we have friends, & addressed a good many single copies to scattered individuals. Those in London have mainly gone to the care of William Farmer. Will he promptly & carefully see to their due distribution? It is quite a tax, I am aware, on the time, perhaps also on the purse, of any one to distribute the contents of such parcels in such a city as London. If Wm. W. Brown could, & would, attend to it better, you might think of a suitable way to suggest this to Farmer, without hurting his feelings. — And if much expense falls on either of them, and there is any way of avoiding it, or rendering it lighter, I should be very thankful to know of it. The box also has about 800 of Anne Weston's Bazaar Report, — done up neatly in pamphlet. These too are in parcels directed to the several principal places wh. sent Contributions. I also sent off 54 copies, 3 ~~a 4~~ weeks since, by Mail, to as many leading friends & well-wishers in G. B. & Ireland. — There are also various other A. S. publications added. Mr. Garrison has sent to your father (meaning to include yourself in the gift.) a 'spiritual' volume, which interested him deeply, and which he hopes will gratify your father. I have put in a few pamphlets for various friends (yourselves of course included), and Adeline sends to you a book which has just appeared here, & been received with unanimous favour,— "The Lamplighter". I did not forget your father's request for a Unitarian Register. I sent to him a half-dozen copies of Whittier's "Sabbath Scene" illustrated,— which he may not have seen, and, if so, may like to have a few copies for distribution. — And, also, — I have put in the box, guarded sufficiently I hope and believe, the daguerreotype of your father & yourself. I was loth to part with it, although I had a copy of it taken; for the copy is by no means equal to the original, although taken by one of the best artists in our city,— I think the best, Southworth. It did not occur to me, when I took it to him to be copied, that he would have to take it apart,— or I think I should not have run the risk of its getting injured; and I was quite alarmed, on going the 2^{d} time, to find the pictures out of the frame. However, he put it up again passably,— not as neatly as before; and as it did not get returned to me in time to allow me to do things deliberately, I was obliged to allow it to depart in not quite as neat-looking order as I wish it were. The unneatness, I believe, is solely in the circumstance that the gum, used in fastening the strip of black paper around the edges, was not entirely wiped off the adjoining glass. I shall be glad to learn that it reaches you safely. For all purposes affecting its real value, it has (I believe) suffered no detriment. We are very thankful for the loan of it, and it has been looked at by very many of our friends, & given high satisfaction. Mrs. Phillips had it, at her house, a week,— together with the ~~both~~ other pictures & diagrams which your Father sent with the Stereoscope.— It also — I mean the picture of yourself & Father —

attended one of our Massachusetts Board Meetings, when you were, in due order, passed round, and thus introduced to all present.

From a ~~lette~~ note I lately received from Sarah Pugh, I understand that you have not yet ventured upon the Water treatment, – at least, have not gone to the Institution proposed. You doubtless have had solid reasons for not going; but I hope it is not because an overwhelming amount of A.S. work prevents your realising your wishes. Miss P. spoke of your having a vast correspondence on your hands. – Let me say here – "don't write to me." I will not add another to your already too long list. When you need to write, on business, – or, when you really can find leisure to write, & it is of the nature of a recreation, then write to me, and I can read your letters, without feeling pained by the thought that you are overtasking yourself. When the various parcels in the box reach Bristol safely, I shall be glad to learn that fact. –

Not long since, I sent you a "Standard" of June 11th last, as you requested in your note rec'd. early in December. – You asked for a ~~5th~~ 1st & 8th Report of the Amn. A.S. Socy. – A 1st Report is not to be had. I have made many inquiries, at N. York & Phil'a, as well as in Boston. An 8th Rept. does not exist. The series stopped with the 7th. – I notice your suggestion of more articles, from this side the water, for the "Advocate". – I asked C.K. Whipple to write occasionally; but he does not think himself the right person. – I have told Richd. Webb that I wish Anne Weston could be enlisted to write a monthly letter for the Advocate. – She is wise, witty, far-sighted, clear-sighted, true as steel, and with a genuine healthy moral glow. – I am sorry she is not, physically, healthy. – We are expecting a full Report, at the Annual Meeting in May next, from Ed. Quincy, which will bring up the arrears of the Society's Reports. – You asked me, too, to ascertain from Anne Weston her authority for saying that the B. & F. A.S. Society passed a vote or votes withdrawing co-operation from the American A.S. Society. She refers to the pamphlet of John A. Collins, published in

G. Britain (when he was there) — at Glasgow, I believe — entitled "Right & Wrong in America", & especially to the Appendix, where is a correspondence between the Broad St. people & Collins. She particul referred to a brief letter on the 62d page, as evidence of the excommunication of the Amn. Socy by the Broad St. Comtee representing of cour the B. & F. Society. — Mr. Chesson early discovered the hard, unyielding, & untrue nature of some of the Manchester material with which he had to deal. — I hope he will soon reco and go on as swimmingly as before. He appears to understand t Antislavery cause & movement here very correctly & fully. —

Miss Mary A. Estlin,
Care of John B. Estlin Esqr.
No 47 Park Street.
Bristol.

What do you, & can you, think of Mitchell? Was ever a viler poltroon! I hear, to-day, of a very strong Letter to Mitchell, condemnatory of h course, published in N. York, & signed by 40 Irishmen!! We are truly indeb to Mitchell for making us acquainted with the fact that there are live Irishmen in America. — Our Govt, under the lead of a drunken, un principled President, is wallowing, more deeply & desperately than eve before, in the filth at the feet of the Slaveholders. — And your Govt embarking in War — the end of which, may it be speedy, but none can s when it will be. You have at least the satisfaction of fighting against Oppre — My Wife & Ade. send their best love to your father and yourself. — W are now boarding, for a few months, in Boston. My 2 boys are at School in th country

I had in Dec. a pleasant [illegible] letter from Mr. [illegible], I have not found time to reply. But [illegible] the box, I intend to write soon.

Affectionately, Yrs. & Yr. father's friend
S. May Jr.